

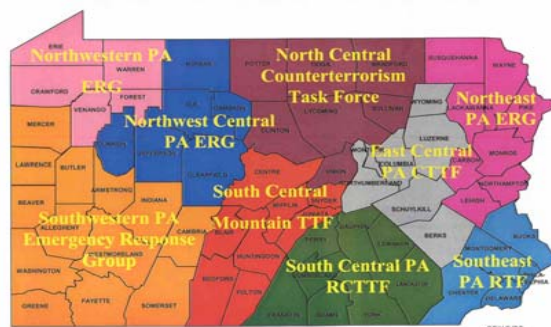


The idea for the PA Region 13 Task Force came from the exploration of the ideas and philosophies developed during 3 years of discussion in the Pittsburgh Allegheny County-WMD working group. The group realized that during any significant “All Hazards” or terrorism event the entire Region or multiple Counties could be called upon to assist the local responders.

The foundation of PA Region 13 is set in place by an unprecedented intergovernmental agreement between the 13 Counties and City of Pittsburgh in Southwestern PA.

The strength of PA Region 13 comes from the strong support and leadership from our 36 County Commissioners, Allegheny County Chief Executive, and Pittsburgh Mayor. Our County/City Elected Officials have empowered the 14 Emergency Management Coordinators to represent the interests of the individual County/City governments on a daily basis.

REGIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM TASK FORCES



## HISTORY

The Inaugural meeting was held on November 9, 1998, at the Allegheny County Emergency Management Office Coordinators from 12 counties and one from the City of Pittsburgh convened to prepare and plan for a potential domestic terrorism event from a regional perspective. Mercer County was admitted into the working group on May 20, 1999, resulting in a total of thirteen counties.

The PA Region 13 Task Force is recognized under State Law Act 227 as one of 9 in the Commonwealth. PA Region 13 covers a population of 3.1 million over a 9,550 square mile area. There are 706 local Municipalities, 713 Fire Departments, 392 Police Departments, 203 EMS Agencies, 65 Hospitals, 15 State Certified Haz Mat Teams, and 2 Explosive Teams. The Region 13 Task Force prides itself in have a strong relationship between Local, County, State, and Federal Organizations.

Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month at the Allegheny County Emergency Operations Center. Individual Committees conduct their business and give reports on various projects and progress. Time is allotted for special interest presentations.

To the credit of all PA Region 13 Task Force members, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Association of Counties, and the National Domestic Preparedness Office have recognized the organization as a model organization for intergovernmental cooperation in fighting the threat and consequences of terrorism.

PA Region 13 has been working hard to secure funding, training, and equipment for the group’s initiatives. Current activities include: implementing and supporting the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security WMD programs and equipment distribution. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Emergency Preparedness, Metropolitan Medical Response System development, training and equipment acquisition and working with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and Federal Emergency Management Agency in developing a region- wide plan and comprehensive training exercises.

Major full-scale exercises have involved the Port Authority subway and bus way within the City of Pittsburgh, “ Mall Strike 2001” and “Crimson Lion” in Westmoreland County, and numerous table tops, drills, and functional exercises throughout the region.

PA Region 13 to date has been operationally tested in Somerset County with the Flight 93 air crash, and QueCreek Mine, and in Beaver County with the Hepatitis A outbreak. The Task Force has responded to many other events throughout the region.

PA Region 13 deployable assets have had a great impact on the regions ability to respond to major emergencies Statewide. PA Region 13 has just added a fully trained and equipped Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Team referred to PA USAR Strike Team #1 to it’s compliment of special resources available to respond to building collapses and special rescue situations.



## MISSION OBJECTIVES

- *Formalize regional mutual aid and intergovernmental agreements to respond to Weapons of Mass Destruction events, chemical emergencies and other man-made and natural disasters.*
- *Establish an interoperable communications system within the region and Western PA for all emergency response agencies.*
- *Develop a specialized equipment resource pool specific to WMD responses to be utilized throughout the region.*
- *Ensure that specialized WMD training is available to all Emergency Services personnel and support agencies as necessary.*
- *Apply, as a group, for grant funding for special acquisitions and project.*
- *Foster positive networking for information, technical applications, law enforcement intelligence and incident prevention; and form solid relationships among all group members and participants.*
- *Develop Regional Response and Intelligence Protocol and procedures.*
- *Develop the ability to deliver highly trained and equipped teams of responders capable of minimizing the effects of a terrorist incident within the region.*
- *Build on the group’s WMD preparedness and response to system that provides the region an enhanced ability to more effectively and efficiently respond and mitigate other man-made and natural disasters.*

## PA Region 13 Task Force “All Hazards and Counter Terrorism”

C/o Allegheny County EMA  
400 North Lexington Street, Suite 200  
Pittsburgh, PA 15208

412-473-2550  
[www.pa-region13.org](http://www.pa-region13.org)

## PA REGION 13 MEMBERS

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>COORDINATOR</u>
ALLEGHENY COUNTY	ROBERT FULL
ARMSTRONG COUNTY	RANDALL BROZENICK
BEAVER COUNTY	WES HILL
BUTLER COUNTY	FRANK P. MATIS
CAMBRIA COUNTY	BRIAN FEIST
CITY OF PITTSBURGH	MICHAEL HUSS
FAYETTE COUNTY	ROY A. SHIPLEY
GREENE COUNTY	JEFFERY MARSHALL
INDIANA COUNTY	PAUL R. BEATTY
LAWRENCE COUNTY	BRIAN MELCER
MERCER COUNTY	FRANK JANNETTI
SOMERSET COUNTY	RICHARD B. LOHR
WASHINGTON COUNTY	JERRERY YATES
WESTMORELAND COUNTY	RICHARD MATASON
FBI FIELD OFFICE - PITTSBURGH	
PA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY	

## COMMITTEES

LEADERSHIP/POLICY	Robert Full, Chairman
COMMUNICATIONS	Paul R. Beatty, Chairman John Nicklin
FIRE & HAZMAT	Jeff Yates, Chairman
LAW ENFORCEMENT	Frank Jannetti, Chairman Sgt. Mona Wallace
MEDICAL & HEALTH	Guy Napolillo, Chairman Dr. Victor Tucci
TRAINING	Roy Shipley, Chairman Randy Brozenick
EQUIPMENT	Wes Hill, Chairman
URBAN SEARCH RESCUE	Rich Matason, Chairman
PLANNING	Brian Feist, Chairman
MILITARY	Rich Matason, Chairman
BUSINESS / UTILITIES	Rick Lohr, Chairman
NEWSLETTER	Rich Matason, Editor

## OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Allegheny County EMS Council  
 Allegheny County Community College  
 Allegheny County Health Department  
 Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Center for Disease Control  
 Center for Emergency Medicine of Western PA  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
 Mercy Health System  
 National Weather Service (NOAA) - Pittsburgh  
 PA Attorney General's Office  
 PA Department of Agriculture  
 PA Department of Environmental Protection  
 PA Department of Health  
 PA Department of Motor Vehicles  
 PA Department of Transportation  
 PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)  
 PA Emergency Medical Services Institute  
 PA Human Relations Commission  
 PA National Guard  
 PA Office of Homeland Security  
 PA State Fire Commissioner  
 PA State Police  
 Pittsburgh Poison Center  
 Sharon Regional Health System  
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 U.S. Attorney General's Office  
 U.S. Coast Guard  
 U.S. Department of Defense Active and Reserves (All Branches)  
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
 U.S. Department of Justice  
 U.S. Department of Transportation  
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 U.S. Postal Service  
 U.S. Public Health Service,  
 Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP)  
 U.S. Veterans Administration (NDMS)  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 University of Pittsburgh Medical Centers  
 West Penn/ Allegheny University Hospitals

## Metropolitan Medical Response System

### Overview



It is the mission of the Metropolitan Medical Response System to respond to, provide support for, and provide assistance to municipal, county, and regional jurisdictions to address effectively responder safety issues, incident management, and public health consequences of NBC incidents that result from accidental or deliberate acts. This support and assistance includes providing planning and training to response personnel prior to an NBC incident, identification of the offending substance via available technology, off-site management consultation service, and, where needed, response to the scene or secondary site to assist with incident management and medical care during an NBC incident. These activities will be conducted in collaboration with and supported by Federal and State authorities.



The MMRS response, assistance, and support includes:

1. Responding to requests from municipal and county jurisdictions comprising Region 13 (Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Mercer, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland, and the City of Pittsburgh).
2. Providing medical management and/or medical assistance and support of NBC incidents.
3. Providing training and response planning assistance to response personnel, prior to NBC incidents.
4. Providing specialized equipment and medical supplies.
5. Providing Public Health Assistance and coordination.
6. Providing technical assistance in the identification of NBC agents and medical intelligence regarding NBC incidents and
7. Supporting coordination and interaction with designated municipal, county, regional, State, and Federal NBC incident response authorities.

